NINETYTHIRD YEAR.

Is Printed in Five Parts: Three News Sections, Comic Section and Magazine.

TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC

ST. LOUIS, MO., SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 1901.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.



THE DAMMING OF THE NILE CAUSES GREAT EXCITEMENT AMONG THE FIRST SETTLERS.

TEXAS PROMISES TO BREAK RECORDS IN "STRIKES" AND SPECULATION.

The Oil Business Has Grown Like Magic-With Hundreds of Thousands of Barrels Gushing Up Every Day a New Market Is in Sight.

BY. J. C. McNEALUS, REPUBLIC SPECIAL

Dallas, Tex., April 20.-By actual record in Texas during the week closed Saturday night. Their capital stock approximate \$5,000,000. Nearly every city of the first grade was represented in the new ventures. Dallas put three of them on the list. There is no abatement to the oil fever in

he Beaumont district; in fact, the fever and excitement seems to be spreading. St. up near Red River, in Montague Counwhere the large asphaltum beds are, is having a boom in oil land and oil prospecting. Lamb Springs, in Grimes County, about sixty miles north of Houston, Saturday reports the keenest excitement ever known in the county, and apparently with good reason. Oll has been discovered and numerous samples in bottles brought to Navasota. A bulletin from that place

"All one can hear on the street is oil. Thousands of dollars are changing hands every hour. Lands in Grimes County oil fields that were bought a month or two ago for \$10 per acre, sell readily now for Lands that were bought eight or ten months ago for \$2 per acre are held at \$100 per acre. Nearly 250 persons of this city left for Lamb Springs Saturday morning prospecting for oil, and before another passes nearly every man in the city will have visited the oil fields. Lamb Springs is the busiest place in Grimes

Assistant General Manager S. M. English returned Saturday to Dallas beadquarters of the Postal Telegraph Company direct from Beaumont. He declares he has never before seen such excitement as prevails in the great oil center.

Mad With Excitement. "We have had to treble our force, and so has the Western Union, during the last ten days, at Beaumont," said Mr. English. Men invade the telegraph offices in wild crambles, grab up a handufi of messages and run over them to see if there is anything for them, so eager are they to get replies to their telegrams for instructions in oil deals and kindred matters. The clerks can't get a chance to wait on them. Everything else in the town is going on in the same feverish, rushing way. There must be at least 10,000 strangers in Beaumont, apparently all men of money and enxious to get it in action. I couldn't get a place to sleep in Beaumont; had to take a train back to Houston every night. Men purchase a chair and sit and sleep on the sdewalks all night. There are regular chair-renters, who get good prices for seats. Several persons are arranging to ship in large tents and several hundred cots to acedate the visitors."

One of the Standard Oil Company's emmaries, who has made three visits from Beaumont to Dallas during the oil excitement said to a well-known railroad man Dellas, who asked him of the situation om the Standard's view point:

Our folks are now thinking more ously than they have ever thought before. When oil was first struck at Beaumont and Yexas as an oil-field rival to the Standard's sts was first being talked about, our lolks felt no uneasiness; they considered es able, with their immense facilities, their splendid business organizations, Prather, former County Treasurer of Dal-their long experience in oil development and las County, has cleared up approximately their wast wealth, to go up against any op- \$150,000 profit on some heretofore indifferent position off concern on the face of the land. George and Issue Jalonic, insurance

earth. All they considered that they needed was to know where the oil was and proceed methodically to protect their interests. My first reports to them were that there was no danger; that Beaumont and Texas generally would not amount to much in the oll industry. But now there are five more gushers at Beaumont added to the original Lucas well, and the oil territory is branching out, so that the situation is decidedly serious for our folks. The tremendous amount of oil coming into sight is an alarming feature; for what can we do, when those Beaumont people will on a Sunday turn loose a hundred thousand barrels of oil, just to amuse a crowd? That's as much as the entire output of some oil fields. These facts are what have put us to thinking harder than we ever thought before."

Speculation on the Increase. As already stated, the interest in the Beaumont situation shows no abatement in Texas. On the contrary, "material" interest is increasing. Shares in oil companies are going as if all the persons of small means in the country had been seized with a craze, Orders roll in to agencies by mail, by telegraph and by long-distance telephone. Not less than \$1,000,000 dollars in "cold cash," it is estimated, has been paid for shares in approximately seventy-five companies that have been chartered during the last thirty days. Not more than a dozen of these companies own land in the oil district. In many instances promoters procure an option on a piece of prairie, organize a company with the name "Beaumont" fastened somewhere in the title, announcing anywhere from \$100,000 to \$1,000,000 worth of stock for sale at from 10 cents to 50 cents per share, place the stock on sale with real estate agents on the commission plan in the leading cities of the State, and the oil-wild public does the rest About a dozen companies are exempt from this analysis of status. They are solid; as the sporting man would say, "they are on the level"; they own lands and are developing wells; their shares are being sold at comparatively high prices and are not med" by the red-lemonade or side-show methods. There are six big wells open at Beaumont. They are called "gushers," and the name fits them. Combined, their capacity is from 250,000 to 300,000 barrels of crude oil per day. They are not being

operated, however, as pipe lines, storage and shipping facilities, as well as a market, are yet to be provided. But these will come Fortunes Made in Beaumont. Some big fortunes have been made at Beaumont, mostly by comparatively poor persons, who have long owned land under which now there is known to be oil. Congressman S. B. Cooper is known to have been very fortunate. His property values in the oil belt are rated all the way from a quarter to a half million dollars; Martin Littleton, formerly of Dallas, now connected officially with the law department of New York City, and a Tammany Hall leader, has come in for a big bunch of wealth. He married a grand-daughter of Judge O'Brien of Beaumont. Five thousand acres of the family land, worth a year ago perhaps a dollar an acre, is rated now in the millions. Part of it has been sold at fabulous figures to an Eastern syndicate. Neal Starke, the Dallas lithographer, comes in on the same basis as Mr. Littleton. Ed.

timated to have operated so as to have good. M. A. Shumard of Dallas had a little shack farm on the Neches, which he disliked even to pay taxes on, and where he stopped not more than thirty days in the

On Tuesday last he sold a few acres of it for \$50,000 cash, and two days later organized an oil company among his friends, with \$300,000 capital, to develop the balance of the property. W. B. Sharpe, a professional well digger, has banked more than \$100,000 since last January, and besides has got in on some of the best oil land in the district. Wirt Davis, son of the late Judge Davis of Dallas, has probably made not less than a million dollars through the increased value of 11,000 acres of land. He has also organized a strong oil company to develop a part of the Davis estate.

Morgan May Take a Hand. There is a report out down here that Mr. Davis has been engaged by J. Plerpont Morgan of New York to engineer an immense deal in Morgan's peculiar line of "harmonizing community of interests." It is understood that behind Morgan stands the Standard Oil Company and behind Davis stands Mr. Morgan. The plan is said to be to concrete as many as possible of the best companies owning land about Beaumont and Sour Lake into one powerful organization and at the proper time Mr. Morgan will "finance" them and the Standard Oil Company will take them in. Scores of other persons whose names are not obtainable are known to have made much money at Beau-

are believed to be Messrs. Galey and Guffey of Pittsburg, Pa., and Professor Lucas of Washington, D. C., who brought in the Lucas well. Their profits cannot be estimated, but they are immense. Fleming of Corsicana sold one "gusher" in the Beatty group and made more than a million. Dewcy Heywood of Chicago was poor and drilling largely on hope a week ago this morning. Now he could sell his "Heywood" well for a million and a half. More "gushers" will almost surely be brought in by the end of next week and one or more additional millionaires developed by Texas oil.

HELD TO THE GRAND JURY.

Dairyman Skinner Denies Having Killed Doctor Scruggs.

Memphis, Tenn., April 20 .- Saturday afternoon dairyman J. W. Skinner, held by the police in connection with the assassination of Doctor Hal S. Scruggs, was denied bail in a habeas corpus proceeding before Criminal Judge Cooper. The prisoner was remanded to the county jail to await the action of the Grand Jury on Tuesday. The police have uncovered additional evidence, and an indictment charging the prisoner with the crime is predicted by the police. The evidence Saturday was all one-sided for the defense. Skinner denied all knowledge of the assassination, though he stated that he was on unfriendly terms with Doctor Scruggs, and that they have had trouble

over political and other questions Upon the night of the tragedy he was at home, so he claims, and is substantiated in this contention by four men, including Charles Quinn, John Alduet and Frank Hicks, neighbors and race horse men, who were at home with him within a few minutes of the time when the crime is alleged

The evidence regarding his pistol is very The evidence regarding his pistol is very conflicting. Skinner, on direct examination, said that he had not seen the pistol in two months. When closely questioned by Attorney General Yerger, he admitted that the pistol had been recently fired, but this occurred, so he stated, at his home, and in the presence of a son. Carpenter Phillips is still in jail.

Hot Springs Hotel Burns.

Hot Springs, Ark., April 20.—The Hudgins Hotel, valued at \$5,000, was destroyed by fire Saturday morning. The property was

MR. PARKER ACCEPTS CHALLENGE TO CONTEST.

Replies to Mayor's Offer That He Will Defer to Wishes of Party Leaders.

Refuses to Consider Financial Proposition Involved, Declaring It a Wager. \

George W. Parker, the Republican canlidate for Mayor in the recent election, Satirday answered the letter addressed to him by Mayor Wells on April 18 in regard to contesting the election. Mr. Parker states leclination to contest and allow his name to be be used by the party leaders in the institution of a contest. He pleads illness as an excuse for his delay in answering the

Mr. Parker came downtown about 1 o'clock Saturday afternoon. After a short consultation with Attorney John D. Johnson he went to his office in the Union Trust building, where he dictated the reply to Mr.

When seen by a Republic representative Mr. Parker said that he was still suffering from the effects of the grip, but had come

sonally. I have neither the financial ability mitteemen refused to announce what, if nor the time to take up the contest on my own account, and will not make a personal Robert C. Day, president of the club, matter of it. I have just written a letter to Mr. Wells, which will explain my position fully. This is in the hands of Attorney John D. Johnson, and the president less act on the matter during the present of the St. Louis Republican Club, who will week. A member of the club stated that give it out for publication if they see fit. The club adopted resolutions authorizing bling block in the road of the contest. the contest, and the responsibility does not Republicans who contributed to the camrest with me."

The letter was transmitted to Mayor after bad. Wells through his attorney, James L.

legal contest over the office of Mayor of this city.

surprised at your ignorance of the same.

the proof of consummated fraud on me.

regret that your letter will probably force a different result.

discussing the reply with a Republic rep-resentative, Mayor Wells said that such literature might have been well enough during the campaign, but that there was no excuse for it at the present time.

"I consider Mr. Parker's reply," he said, "characteristic of him, and in very poor

taste, but I am not surprised at it, as it s quite in keeping with the order of things

REPEATS FORMER CHARGES. which he and some of the men actively chraged with him were responsible for in the recent campaign. Instead of the letter being a direct reply to my communication it is nothing more than a stump speech and, I think, a very mediocre one, at that The writer confines himself entirely to sup positions, and falls absolutely to state facts. "As to whether I shall reply to this letter I have not yet determined. I will have to take the matter under advisement, because as I interpreted it, Mr. Parker has not stated definitely whether he will or will not join with me in taking the question into the courts, which is the only place where to have contented himself with referring the matter to his party managers, and I

agers may decide to do.
"It is neither my desire nor intention to enter into a newspaper or letter controversy in the letter that he will withdraw his with Mr. Parker. The only way I will concourts. There it can be properly analyzed and settled upon its merits. As to Mr. Parker's criticism concerning the financial proposition made in my letter to him, I will say that it is frequently necessary, in order to arrive at definite conclusions, that I am of the opinion in the matter now be-

am completely at sea as to what these man-

An Executive Committee meeting was in session for more than two hours at the St, Louis Republican Club, Vandeventer downtown expressly for the purpose of an- avenue and Morgan street, Friday evening. downtown expressly for the purpose of an swering Mr. Wells's letter.

"I take it," he said, "that the challenge to contest the election was issued to the Republican party, and not to me personally. I have neither the financial ability mitteemen refused to announce what, if some personally is not a section they had determined upon.

paign are unwilling to throw good money

St. Louis, April 20, 1901.-Honorable Rolla Wells, St. Louis; Dear Sir-Illness must

plead my apology for the delay in answering yours of the 18th, inviting me to a

It is proper to state that my letter of the 16th to the Republican Club, to which you refer as the controlling cause of your action, was not written for publication, and if I had been consulted, the same would not have appeared in print. My anxiety was to terminate all controversy over the recent election, and only

I see no reason to retract or modify the statements in my letter of the 16th inst.

touching the use of fraud and force in the recent municipal election, and my only surprise is that you should feign ignorance of these conditions—conditions

so flagrant, pronounced and general as to shock the sense of justice of the com-

munity and convince everybody who was open to fair conviction that the whole

thing was the result of a premeditated assault upon the sanctity of the ballot.

While I do not say, nor do I believe, that you personally had anything to do with this feature of the recent unique performance called an election, yet I am

In this connection I must remind you that prior to the election, during the

campaign, I publicly demanded that you co-operate with me in the prevention of

fraud at the election. You must know that it is easier to prevent fraud than to

expose and punish it; easier to stop repeaters than to follow up and prove their

work. I might rest here and decline the use of my name in the contest on the

ground that you had refused to join in taking steps to secure a fair election,

and that after you were seated in office you seek to cast the whole burden of

As to whether, under the restrictions and limitations thrown around an elec-

tion contest-especially in Missouri-these frauds can be uncovered to an extent

that will reverse the declared result of the election, is a problem. It is conceded

that the manipulators of the fraud and force brigade were "past masters" in this

new art of election methods, which has found a lodgement in Missouri under the

fostering care and guidance of the Democratic party, and I must confess to a

grave doubt as to the result of a contest, notwithstanding my conviction that the

Democratic candidates (not candidate, as you incorrectly quote me as saying) now

in office under color of the recent election, are the beneficiaries of the force and

fraud so employed. The deftness and facility with which an openly acknowledged

forgery of the returns in the Election Commissioners' office were so speedily

utilized to unseat two Republicans in the House of Delegates, would indicate that

the department of justice will hardly be able to cope with and undo the results

of these expert manipulators of the elections which have so recently tarnished

the fair name of St. Louis, backed up as they are by the peculiar provisions of

what are known as the Police and Nesbit election laws. I have never for a mo-

ment entertained the idea of instituting a contest in my own behalf. For reasons

stated in my letter to the St. Louis Republican Club, I was not willing to even

consent to the use of my name in a contest, and an additional reason being that I

was opposed to opening up the strife and thereby diverting our people from

movements and measures for the promotion and success of the Exposition. It

was mainly on this further ground that I declined the use of my name in a con-

test. But as you have opened up the matter yourself, you have relieved me from

responsibility in the premises, which I was anxious to avoid. In view of this, I

have concluded to waive my personal objection to the renewal of the strife, and

will refer the matter of a contest and the use of my name therein to my party

leaders, construing, as I do, your letter as a challenge to my party rather than

to me personally. I am more inclined to do this in view of your proposal to

waive all technicalities. By this I shall assume that you mean that in case of a

contest no obstacles will be thrown in the way of counsel by you or your party

friends in office, either in the steps necessary to the preparation of contest pa-

pers, or during the progress of the contest itself, in obtaining access to the ballot

boxes, registration and voting lists, and tally sheets and returns-the object on

both sides being to develop the real facts connected with the election as speedily

Referring to the money part of your proposition, I cannot entertain it.

Stripped of its specious guise of a possible donation to a worthy charity, it

amounts to nothing less than a wager between you and me on the result of the

contest, to which I cannot subscribe and in which I cannot participate. On re-

flection, you will surely agree with me that it is grossly improper that the par-

ties to an election contest for the highest municipal office of the city, and that

contest to be determined in a court of justice, should indulge in a bet or wager

To my mind, the issue which would be involved in the proposed contest is

above and beyond all mere pecuniary consideration. It is the sanctity of the

ballot which lies at the very foundation of our liberties and the perpetuity of our

institutions. Without its protection and security, our dearest rights as citizens

are destroyed, and our existence as a self-governing people overthrown. I shall

therefore, regard a contest, however it may terminate as to its results, so far as

you or I are concerned, as invaluable to the public in demonstrating whether or

not the election was fairly conducted and the result honestly declared. With this

end in view, I will therefore notify my party associates that I withdraw my

previous declination and consent to the use of my name in the institution and

I have the honor to remain, very respectfully,

TAGGART PLANS FOR HILL

Organizing the South to Get Presi-

dential Nomination.

as possible, and without the interposition of technical or frivolous objections.

GREAT FLOOD OF 1884 IN THE EAST MAY BE SURPASSED.

Entire Chartiers Valley Threatened With Inundation—Weather Bureau Issues Warning-People Panic Stricken.

Lives Are Lost, Law and Order Abandoned and a Reign of Terror Prevails—River at Pittsburg Rising Nine Inches an Hour-Gravest Fears Entertained.

WEATHER BUREAU'S BULLETIN.

Washington, April 20.-The Weather Bureau Saturday night issued the follow

Ohlo watershed have caused a very rapid and dangerous rise in the upper Ohlo River and its tributaries. In anticipation of a flood of decided proportions, warnings were issued Satur day morning of a thirty-foot stage at Pittsburg during Saturday night and a dan

ger-line stage or over below Pittsburg as far as Portsmouth, O. At 7 p. m. the stage of water at Pittsburg was 21.6 feet, 2.6 feet above the day ger line, a rise of 7.2 feet since 8 a, m., and rising half a foot an hour.

At Parkersburg the stage was 34.8 feet, a rise of 7 feet since 8 a. m., and 1. feet below the danger line, and still rising. At Cincinnati the stage was 35.8 feet, a rise of 4.7 feet since 8 a. m., and ris ing, but still 15 feet below the danger line.

As it is still raining over the upper Ohio Valley it is impossible Saturday night to venture a definite forecast of the exact crest of the flood wave. It will, however, move rapidly down the Ohio River, and stages above the danger lines will no doubt be reached as far as Cincinnati by Sunday night or Monday.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

New York, April 20.—The big storm—in some sections rain, in others both rain and snow, and in still others a veritable snow blizzard-which extended over a large part of the Atlantic Seaboard and as far west as Illinois, wrought its greatest fury in Western Pennsylvania.

In Pittsburg and the vicinity there were big floods and the loss of five or six lives. In some homes the occupants were made prisoners by the floods. Steam railroads at ffered heavy damage from landsildes and

In this State there was a big fall of snow. A Pittsburg dispatch to-night says that a million dollars worth of property destroyed is the first day's result of the unexpected is the first day's result of the unexpected flood that is now sweeping the Allegheny, the Monongahela and Ohio valleys.

Every steam railroad running out of Pittsburg is crippled. Some of them have abandoned all attempts to run trains until rushing waters recede and landslides are cleared away. In all the low lands of Pittsburg Allegheny and the surranding ferti-

their homes.

The rivers are still rising, and it is feared the flood will be worse than that of 1884.

Heavy landsiles carried away houses and large sections of railway. Saturday night pesons ae using skiffs, instead of tolley cars, to get to their homes. The Pittsburg Basebail Club's grounds at Exposition Park are six feet under water, and, in all probability, cannot be put into shape for the opening game next Friday. Every cellar of the houses in Lower Alleghany has water in it, and, in some cases, persons had to vacate the upper rooms of their houses, which are now swirling in the flood.

The worst place is in and around Carnegie, seven miles west.

Most of the streets of that place were under water. In the lower end of the town the water came upon the residents so suddenly

der water. In the lower end of the town the water came upon the residents so suddenly that they became panic-stricken. Hundreds of negro miners live there. They thought the end of the world had come.

While the women prayed the negroes began to loot vacated houses. They seized a large quantity of liquor that had been removed from the cellars of saloons and became intoxicated. Chief of Police George Foster and a few policemen attempted to arrest the negroes, and a riot resulted. Several men were seriously injured before the regroes could be subdued.

Had No Warning.

regroes could be subclued.

Had No Warning.

The flood was caused by heavy rains all over this section. The Weather Bureau gave no warning of it; and before the rain that began Friday, had predicted fair weather. Rain fell most of yesterday, all of last night and part of to-day. At 10 o'clock to-night all rivers thereabouts were still rising, and it was not known where they would stop. The flood swept into some business houses and homes too fast for the residents to save much. Merchants could not put up their goods soon enough to get them out of the way of the flood.

Cars of the Southern Traction Company

NORTHEASTERN CHIO.

Cleveland, I., April 20.—The terrific storm of wind and snow which prevailed in this city and vicinity Saturday was one of the most disastrous to telephone and telegraph which came from the north, reached at which came from the north, reached at down, and times a velocity of more than sixty miles and wire communication with all the terrific storm of wind and snow which prevailed in this city and vicinity Saturday was one of the most disastrous to telephone and telegraph which came from the north, reached at down, and wire communication with all the terrific storm of wind and snow which prevailed in this city and vicinity Saturday was one of the most disastrous to telephone and telegraph which came from the north, reached at down, and wire communication with all this city and vicinity Saturday was one of the most disastrous to telephone and telegraph which came from the north, reached at the came from the north reached at the came from the

were caught in the streets and are standing there now tied with ropes to prevent their being carried away.

Along the Washington (Pa) branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad the condition could hardly be worse. The road is practically washed out. To save bridges the railroad efficials ran cars loaded with heavy stone on them, with the hope of holding them by sheer weight.

Two lives were lost in that section. Ross Schmidt fell in Carriers' Creek and was carried away before help could reach her. Robert Detwiler attempted to walk down into his cellar.

The water had carried away the collarsteps, but in the darkness Detwiler did not notice this. He stepped off, landing in six feet of water, and was drowned. Every manufacturing plant around and McKee's Rocks had to close.

The Pressed Steel Car Company's works were also surrounded with water, and men had to swim out to places of safety.

Hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of damage was done in and around McKeesport, Braddock and Wilmerding.

Panhandle Road Washed Out.

All along the Washington branch of the Panhandle Railroad, the condition could

Panhandle Road Washed Out.

All along the Washington branch of the Panhandle Railroad, the condition could hardly be worse. The road is practically washed out. There are washouts at Bower Hill, Bridgeville, Meadow Lane and Arden on the Washington branch, and on the Bishop and Miller's Run branch, which cuts off from Bridgeville to the mining territory, there is no possibility of traffic, owing to the washouts and the flood that runs over the tracks.

To save the bridges the railroad company

To save the bridges the railroad company officials ran cars loaded with heavy states this morning with the hope of holding them down by sheer weight. The resident of Lower Allegheny, for the first time in many years, have become anxious at the threatening prospects of a flood.

At the Western Penitentiary, while the officials profess that they are not in the slightest degree perturbed, consultations and conferences are being held as to the best steps to be taken for the safety and security of the many prisoners, should the worst predictions be realized.

Predictions are now confidently made that the great flood of 1834 will be reached and possibly passed before twenty-four hours. The volume of water here is greater

hours. The volume of water here is greater than in 1884 and is rising four inches an hour faster than in that year.

NORTHEASTERN QHIC

COLD RAIN, SNOW, FLOODS IN STATES AROUND KENTUCKY.

predict the extent of the coming flood, but all signs point to a stage of water that must bring devastation of a most serious nature all along the Ohio River and its tributaries in Ohio, West Virginia and Ken-

Telegraphic communication to-day with New Lork is almost entirely cut off. Points in Ohio not fifty miles apart are communicated with over lines stretching over several hundred miles. A few points in Northern Ohio were wholly cut off from telegraphic

Specials from the Upper Ohio Valley tonight indicate that great alarm among the inhabitants of towns along the Ohio River and tributaries. The flood has already reached many places. Though the rise was more sudden than ever before, yet all points receive more timely notice than in former years on account of the extra vigilance of

the Weather Bureau. Louisville, Ky., April 20 .- Roaring streams, continued high winds and heavy precipitation of rain and snow were conditions to-

AST VOLUMES OF WATER COMING. | day in many of the States of the South Cincinnati, O., April 20.-It is too early to Little damage was done by the wind, though it is feared that in some localities you crops have been stunted or killed by the frost or cold.

At many points, particularly in Eastern Kentucky, Eastern Tennessee and in Vaginia the temperature was lower than known in a decade at this time of the year. The Big Sandy, Twelve Pole, Guyandotte, Tug and New rivers are at flood tide, and many thousands logs have been sweet away.

In West Virginia over a foot of snow has fallen in the last thirty-six hours. Similar reports come from nearly all places heard from in the upper Ohio Valley. Near Blacksburg, S. C., a town on the South Carolina and Georgia extension railroad, the track was undermined by the high water, and to-day a combination freight and passenger train ran into a washout. One train hand was badly hurt and another is missing.

train hand was badly hurt and another a missing.

The water in all streams about Bischaburg is higher than has been known in twenty years.

Throughout the entire Southeast the telegraph and telephone services are in a badly crippled condition.

At Atlanta, where high winds have been prevailing for days, the maximum was reached Saturday morning, when the velocity recorded was fifty-six miles an hour,

OVATION FOR FRANCIS

New York, April 20.-What was intended o be an ordinary "smoker" of the Southern Society at Sherry's to-night with music accompaniments, resolved itself into an ovation to former Governor D. R. Francis of

> gathered to pass a pleasant evening, when Augustus Van Wyck, president of the so-ciety, entered the hall accompanied by Governor Francis. The cheers which greeted the announcement of the society's honored guests were prolonged for fully three

Six hundred members of the society had

guests were prolonged for fully three minutes.

Judge Van Wyck escorted Governor Francis to the platform, introducing him as the guest of honor.

"He looks good," said the president, "but he does not look nearly so good as he is."

Invited to St. Louis.

The remark caused renewed cheering, which was gracefully acknowledged. Governor Francis then, in the name of the St. Louis Exposition of 1993, invited the Southern Bociety as a body to visit St. Louis and

to hold its annual meeting of 1903 in that

to hold its annual meeting of 1903 in that city.

Governor Francis said:

"The date 1903 will be the anniversary of the purchase by President Thomas Jefferson of the Louisiana Territory, which has added so much to the wealth and greetness of this country. I take pleasure in inviting the Southern Society to hold its annual meeting of 1903 in St. Louis when that city will show to the members of the society its hospitality—proverbial Southern Southern hospitality which will be shown to you in St. Louis and hope that you will accept the invitation which I now extend to you.

"New York Is Provincial."

"St. Louis and the surrounding country produce most of the wealth of this country. You are somewhat provincial here in New York. The great metropolitan dailies confine their columns to what occurs on Manhattan Island, and apparently forget that there is a great Southwest, which is largely reoresented in making the wealth of this

there is a great Southwest, which is largely represented in making the wealth of this

represented in making the weaking to country."

Judge Van Wyck replied for the Southern Society and accepted the invitation for the society to hold its meeting in 1906 in St. Louis. He said:

"The Southern Society will accept the invitation of Governor Francis, and the meeting of 1903 will be held in his city."

Among the Missourians present were Doutor J. J. Lawrence, E. G. Prindle, Reversed Raiph Walker, Harry W. Walker, Hamilton M. Dawes, Burton Thompson, Jeanne

Chicago, April 20.—A dispatch to the Record-Herald from Indianapolis says:

"If the plans that are being matured here do not miscarry, Mayor Taggart of this city will be made chairman of the Democratic National Committee before the end of the present year, and a systematic organization begun throughout the States of the South and West to make David B. Hill of New York the party nominee for President at the next national convention."

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Wichita, Kas., April 22.—Implement men who have been traveling about this State within the last three weeks state that the wheat crop in Kansas this year will, without exception, be the largest ever raised here, and that the crop will at least reach 100,000, 500 bushels. The crop last year aggregated 75,000,000 bushels.

PREDICT LARGE WHEAT CROP.

Kansas Is Counted On to Produce

100,000,000 Bushels.